

## Cluster Area CII: Comprehensive Child Find System (CC)

**Question:** Does the implementation of a comprehensive, coordinated Child Find system result in the identification of all eligible infants and toddlers?

**Probes:**

CC.I Is the percentage of eligible infants and toddlers with disabilities that are receiving Part C services comparable to state and national data for the percentage of infants and toddlers with developmental delays?

CC.II Is the percentage of eligible infants with disabilities under the age of one that are receiving Part C services comparable with state and national data?

**State Goals:** (for reporting period July 1, 2002 through June 30, 2003)

- The enrollment in First Steps will increase based on Missouri's population estimates.
- The number of children served by First Steps who are from historically underrepresented populations will increase.

**Performance Indicators:** (for reporting period July 1, 2002 through June 30, 2003)

CC.I The percentage of eligible infants and toddlers with disabilities that are receiving Part C services is comparable to state and national data for the percentage of infants and toddlers with developmental delays.

CC.II The percentage of eligible infants with disabilities under the age of one that are receiving Part C services is comparable with state and national data.

**CC.I The percentage of eligible infants and toddlers with disabilities that are receiving Part C services is comparable to state and national data for the percentage of infants and toddlers with developmental delays.**

**From OSEP letter on Self-Assessment dated 03/2003:**

Part C Child Find – Part C requires, at 34 CFR 303.321(b)(1), that all infants and toddlers in the State who are eligible for services under Part C are identified, located, and evaluated. On page 2 of the Child Find and Public Awareness Section of the Self-Assessment, the State set forth its' conclusion-based on current census data and the number of infants and toddlers with disabilities identified – that it does not identify or evaluate all Part C eligible infants and toddlers.

**1. Baseline/Trend Data and Analysis:** (for reporting period July 1, 2002 through June 30, 2003)

Responsibilities for Child Find and referral to the Part C system for Missouri State agencies are included in Missouri Regulations for Part B (page 11), Part C (page 20) and Interagency Agreements with the Departments of Mental Health (DMH), Health (DHSS) and Social Services (DSS). These regulations and agreement assure the timely referral of infants and toddlers with suspected disabilities to Missouri's Part C system for eligibility determination.

<b>National Comparison Birth through Age 2</b>	
National (December 1, 2002)*	2.24%
Missouri (December 1, 2002)*	1.33%
MO Self Assessment (October 2002)	1.28%
Missouri (June 30, 2003)	1.57%
Missouri (December 31, 2003)	1.57%

\* % Based on 2002 Population Estimates

Sources: US DOE, OSEP, Data Analysis System (DANS); SuperSPOE database as of 2/22/04

**Percentage of all children under the age of three receiving services 12/1/2002 (Excludes at-risk)**

**States with Narrow Eligibility Criteria**

State	Percentage
Alaska	2.12%
Oklahoma	2.03%
North Dakota	1.88%
Montana	1.81%
Arizona	1.36%
<b>Missouri</b>	<b>1.33%</b>
District of Columbia	1.27%
Nevada	0.91%

**Active Infants and Toddlers with an IFSP In Comparison to Census Total as of 6/30/2003**

SPOE Regions		Total Active	< 3 yrs Census Total	Active IFSP % of population
St. Louis (Region #2)	Urban	963	51,701	1.86%
St. Charles (Region #1)	Urban	273	12,770	2.14%
Atchison area (Region #4)	Rural	22	1,923	1.14%
Platte/Clay/Ray (Region #6)	Near Urban	219	11,888	1.84%
Andrew (St. Joseph) (Region #5)	Rural	85	5,317	1.60%
SE MO (Region #7, 21, 23)	Rural	177	15,796	1.12%
Kirksville (Region #8)	Rural	32	2,632	1.22%
Kansas City (Region #9)	Urban	411	27,839	1.48%
Sedalia (Region #10)	Rural	68	6,380	1.07%
Columbia (Region #11)	Small Urban	161	9,498	1.70%
SW MO (Region #12, 14, 15)	Rural	207	19,837	1.04%
Springfield (Region #13)	Small Urban	245	13,695	1.79%
Jefferson City (Region #16)	Rural	84	5,872	1.43%
Camdenton/Rolla (Region #17)	Rural	69	6,316	1.09%
Union (Region #19)	Rural	75	4,408	1.70%
Cuba (Region #20)	Rural	31	2,408	1.29%
S Central MO / West Plains (Region #18, 22)	Rural	44	6,554	0.67%
N Central MO (Region #24)	Rural	24	2,066	1.16%
Shelby (Region #25)	Rural	29	2,080	1.39%
Montgomery City (Region #26)	Rural	50	3,602	1.39%
Jefferson County (Region #3)	Near Urban	208	8,486	2.45%
Grand Total		3,477	221,068	1.57%

\* 2000 Census

Source: SuperSPOE database as of 2/22/04

**Counts of Infants and Toddlers under three years old with IFSPs**

SPOE Region	04/1/2002	06/1/2002	08/1/2002	10/1/2002	12/1/2002	02/1/2003	04/1/2003 *	06/1/2003	% change from implementation to present **
St. Louis (Region 2)	663	763	883	913	905	926	935	940	41.78%
St. Charles (Region 1)	189	234	268	282	285	280	268	266	40.74%
Other Phase 1 SPOEs (Regions 4, 5, 6)	190	208	259	260	278	303	330	341	79.47%
Kansas City (Region 9)	--	--	--	--	--	--	362	387	6.91%
Springfield (Region 13)	--	--	--	--	--	--	244	247	1.23%
Jefferson County (Region 3)	--	--	--	--	--	--	236	219	-7.20%
Other Phase 2 SPOEs	--	--	--	--	--	--	1,029	1,048	1.85%
Total Phase 1	1,042	1,205	1,410	1,455	1,468	1,509	1,533	1,547	48.46%
Total Phase 2							1,871	1,901	1.60%
Grand Total	1,042	1,205	1,410	1,455	1,468	1,509	3,404	3,448	
Increase	--	163	205	45	13	41	1,895	44	
% Increase	--	15.6%	17.0%	3.2%	0.9%	2.8%	125.6%	1.3%	

\* Phase 2 Implementation began on March 1, 2003.

\*\* For Phase 1 SPOEs, % changes from April 1, 2002 to June 1, 2003. For Phase 2 SPOEs, % changes from April 1, 2003 to June 1, 2003.

Source: SuperSPOE database as of 3/7/04

**Active Infants and Toddlers by Primary Program Eligibility as of 6/30/2003**

SPOE	50% Delay in One Dev. Domain	% of Total	Medical Diagnosis	% of Total	Very Low Birth Weight	% of Total	Grand Total
St. Louis (Region 2)	573	59.50%	293	30.43%	97	10.07%	963
St. Charles (Region 2)	146	53.48%	118	43.22%	9	3.30%	273
Other Phase 1 SPOEs (Regions 4, 5, 6)	163	50.00%	121	37.12%	42	12.88%	326
Kansas City (Region 9)	196	47.69%	179	43.55%	36	8.76%	411
Springfield (Region 13)	142	57.96%	85	34.69%	18	7.35%	245
Jefferson County (Region 3)	72	34.62%	132	63.46%	4	1.92%	208
Other Phase 2 SPOEs	441	41.96%	529	50.33%	81	7.71%	1,051
Grand Total	1,733	49.84%	1,457	41.90%	287	8.25%	3,477

\*All "Active Infants and Toddlers" have an active IFSP and have not been terminated.

Source: SuperSPOE database as of 2/22/04

**Child Count, Active IFSPs by Race**

Race	Active IFSPs 6/30/2003	%	MO Population (0-2 years old)*	%	% of MO population by Race
American Indian or Alaska Native	5	0.14%	931	0.43%	0.54%
Asian/Pacific Islander	71	2.04%	2,650	1.21%	2.68%
Black, African Am. (Not Hispanic)	457	13.14%	30,392	13.92%	1.50%
Hispanic/Latino	103	2.96%	8,749	4.01%	1.18%
White (Not Hispanic)	2,841	81.71%	175,567	80.43%	1.62%
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,477</b>		<b>218,289</b>		

\* 2000 Census (excludes biracial, multiracial and "other" races)

Source: SuperSPOE database as of 2/22/04

#### Referrals per 2-month span

	May-June 2002	July-Aug 2002	Sep-Oct 2002	Nov-Dec 2002	Jan-Feb 2003	Mar-Apr 2003*	May-June 2003	Monthly Average
St. Louis (Region 2)	283	246	298	264	341	318	249	142.79
St. Charles (Region 1)	60	51	101	59	84	83	62	35.71
Other Phase 1 SPOEs (Regions 4, 5, 6)	70	61	72	61	91	81	54	35.00
Kansas City (Region 9)	--	--	--	--	--	145	101	61.50
Springfield (Region 13)	--	--	--	--	--	48	62	27.50
Jefferson County (Region 3)	--	--	--	--	--	63	42	26.25
Other Phase 2 SPOEs	--	--	--	--	--	333	258	147.75
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>413</b>	<b>358</b>	<b>471</b>	<b>384</b>	<b>516</b>	<b>1,071</b>	<b>828</b>	<b>476.50</b>
<b>Increase</b>		<b>-55</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>-87</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>555</b>	<b>-243</b>	
<b>% Increase</b>		<b>-13.3%</b>	<b>31.6%</b>	<b>-18.5%</b>	<b>34.4%</b>	<b>107.6%</b>	<b>-22.7%</b>	

\* Phase 2 Implementation began on March 1, 2003.

Source: SuperSPOE database as of 2/22/04

**Count of Referral Sources - All Children Under 3 Years of Age who Received IFSPs**

Source	6/30/2003	%
Child Care program/provider	374	10.76%
Dept. of Health and Senior Services (DHSS)	2	0.06%
Dept. of Mental Health (DMH)	926	26.63%
Head Start / Early Head Start	150	4.31%
Hospital (other than NICU)	93	2.67%
Missouri School for the Blind (MSB)	5	0.14%
Missouri School for the Deaf (MSD)	0	0.00%
Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU)	49	1.41%
Other health care provider	56	1.61%
Other LEA program*	453	13.03%
Parent	385	11.07%
Physician (MD, DO, Psychiatrist, Psychologist)	342	9.84%
Public Health facilities/providers	5	0.14%
Parents as Teachers	81	2.33%
Social Service Agency (inc. DFS)	63	1.81%
Other Referral Source*	493	14.18%
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,477</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

Source: SuperSPOE database as of 2/22/04

\* A large number of the referrals from "Other LEA Program" and "Other Referral Source" were for children who were converted to the new system. No additional information is available on these referrals, but more current data show that the percentages in these categories are decreasing.

**Referral Eligibility Information**

	7/1/2002 to 6/30/2003		
SPOE	Referrals	IFSPs	% Eligible
St. Louis (Region 2)	1,710	870	50.88%
St. Charles (Region 1)	426	214	50.23%
Other Phase 1 SPOEs (Regions 4, 5, 6)	419	296	70.64%
Kansas City (Region 9)	242	137	56.61%
Springfield (Region 13)	109	72	66.06%
Jefferson County (Region 3)	105	49	46.67%
Other Phase 2 SPOEs	645	317	49.15%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>3,656</b>	<b>1,955</b>	<b>53.47%</b>

Source: SuperSPOE database as of 2/22/04

**Referrals and Eligibility Rate by Race**

Race	Implement to 6/30/03	Received IFSPs	Eligibility Rate
American Indian or Alaska Native	7	5	71.43%
Asian/Pacific Islander*	381	58	15.22%
Black, African Am. (Not Hispanic)	590	348	58.98%
Hispanic/Latino	109	62	56.88%
White (Not Hispanic)	3,263	2,000	61.29%
Total	4,350	2,473	56.85%

Source: SuperSPOE database as of 2/22/04

\* The reasons for the large number of Asian/Pacific Islander referrals is largely unknown, however it could be due to large number of Asian adoptions.

**Findings:**

- In general, the count of children with active IFSPs has been increasing and data show that Missouri has reached the benchmark set for the December 1, 2003 child count, however, the percent of children served lags far behind the national average. It is important to keep in mind that the Missouri First Steps program does not serve children at-risk and has narrow eligibility criteria. However, comparison to other states with narrow eligibility criteria shows Missouri to have the third lowest percentage of children served. Across all eligibility criteria, only six states have percentages served less than Missouri.
- The percentage of children served in the First Steps program varies across SPOEs, however the SPOEs in or near urban areas tend to be serving higher percentages of the infant and toddler population under three years old.
- Additional analysis is needed to examine referral sources and the application of eligibility criteria especially in regards to areas serving the highest and lowest percentages of infants and toddlers.
- Data does suggest that a high percentage of referrals are not found eligible for services, suggesting that referral sources are not as familiar with eligibility criteria as they could be. Preliminary data for 2003-04 shows a large increase in the percent of referrals made by parents suggesting that more people are aware of the First Steps program. Some differences are seen between SPOEs in the percentages of children by primary eligibility category. This is being addressed in monitoring visits and ongoing reviews of data.
- Some racial disproportionality is seen in the possible under-representation of Hispanics in the First Steps program. This is being addressed in SPOE responsibilities for public relations and child find through the new RFP.

**2. Targets:** (for reporting period July 1, 2002 through June 30, 2003)

Targets had not been established for 2002-2003. Targets were established in conjunction with the Improvement Plan which was submitted July 1, 2003.

**3. Explanation of Progress or Slippage:** (for reporting period July 1, 2002 through June 30, 2003)

Local Interagency Coordinating Councils (LICC) can have a large impact on child find across the state, however funding for LICC operations was cut during the 2002 Legislative session, when a \$700,000 reduction was required by the state legislature to the DESE First Steps supplemental budget request. DESE made the decision to continue direct services to infants, toddlers and families and focus budget reductions on administrative functions, LICCs and training.

Child find will be significantly impacted by the requirements and performance standards being put in place for the Phase 1 SPOE RFP. Regional Interagency Coordinating Councils (RICC) will be established by the SPOEs and will work with the SPOEs to determine child find targets appropriate to each region. These targets will then be used to evaluate SPOEs on performance standards. See the RFP section in the Introduction for more information.

Due to the full implementation towards the end of the reporting year (July 1, 2002 through June 30, 2003), data provided under "Baseline/Trend Data and Analysis" will be considered baseline. The focus for the majority of 2002-03 was to reach full implementation for the redesigned First Steps program.

**4. Projected Targets:**

The following benchmarks/targets were established in conjunction with Missouri's Improvement Plan.

The percent of children served in Part C as measured by the December child count will be consistent with the national participation rate as follows:

Child Count as of	Target
December 2003	1.55%
December 2004	1.65%
December 2005	1.75%
December 2006	1.85%
December 2007	2.00%

Additional projected targets are in the Future Activities tables.

**5. & 6. Future Activities to Achieve Projected Targets/Results and Projected Timelines and Resources:**

See also GS.I and CE.I

New Cluster/ Probe	IP Key	Activity Key	Activity Groups (5)	Future Activities to Achieve Projected Targets (5)	Projected Targets/ Evidence of Change (4)	Projected Timelines (6)	Resources (6)
CC.I CC.II	4.7	4.7.4	Monitoring of data reports	Monitor Active Infants and Toddlers Report	Increase in percent of infants and toddlers served in First Steps	7/2004 Ongoing	DSE Staff
CC.I	7.8	7.8.1.2	Interagency Agreements	Meet with DHSS to revise interagency agreement	An updated agreement	<b>2003-04</b>	Comp
CC.I	7.8	7.8.1.3	Interagency Agreements	Meet with DMS to revise interagency agreement	An updated agreement	<b>2003-04</b>	Comp
CC.I CC.II	7.8	7.8.3	Interagency Agreements	Public Awareness/Child Find	Referrals to IFSP percentage of 80% or higher	<b>Ongoing</b>	Data



<b>New Cluster/ Probe</b>	<b>IP Key</b>	<b>Activity Key</b>	<b>Activity Groups (5)</b>	<b>Future Activities to Achieve Projected Targets (5)</b>	<b>Projected Targets/ Evidence of Change (4)</b>	<b>Projected Timelines (6)</b>	<b>Resources (6)</b>
CC.I CC.II	7.8	7.8.3.1	Interagency Agreements	General informing brochure update and distribution	Brochure updated and distributed	<b>Ongoing</b>	EP
CC.I CC.II	7.8	7.8.3.2	Interagency Agreements	Review and revise PR plan	PR plan reviewed and revised	<b>12/2003</b>	DSE Staff
CC.I CC.II	7.8	7.8.3.3	Interagency Agreements	Implementation of Public Awareness Plan	PR plan implemented	7/2004	EP, LICCs and SPOEs
CC.I CC.II	7.8	7.8.3.5	Interagency Agreements	Development and distribution of public notice	Public notice developed and distributed		EP
CC.I CC.II	7.8	7.8.3.7	Interagency Agreements	Target specific racial/ethnic groups to promote referrals from diverse populations	Referrals consistent with racial demographics	1/2008	Data
CC.I CC.II	7.8	7.8.3.8	Interagency Agreements	Activities to target critical referral sources (medical, PAT, etc.)	Referrals consistent with DHSS Birth Defects Report	1/2008	Data
CC.I CC.II	7.8	7.8.3.9	Interagency Agreements	Consider expansion of eligibility criteria to be less restrictive and include at risk	Review impact data	7/2006	DSE Staff

**CC.II The percentage of eligible infants with disabilities under the age of one that are receiving Part C services is comparable with state and national data.**

**1. Baseline/Trend Data and Analysis:** (for reporting period July 1, 2002 through June 30, 2003)

<b>National Comparison Birth to Age 1</b>	
National (December 1, 2002)*	1.03%
Missouri (December 1, 2002)*	0.55%
MO Self Assessment (October 2002)	0.48%
Missouri (June 30, 2003)	0.63%
Missouri (December 31, 2003)	0.68%

\* % Based on 2002 Population Estimates

Sources: US DOE, OSEP, Data Analysis System (DANS); SuperSPOE database as of 2/22/04

**Percentage of all children under the age of one receiving services 12/1/2002**

**(Excludes at-risk)**

**States with Narrow Eligibility Criteria**

State	Percentage
Oklahoma	1.33%
Montana	1.20%
North Dakota	0.85%
Alaska	0.83%
<b>Missouri</b>	<b>0.56%</b>
Arizona	0.53%
Nevada	0.35%
District of Columbia	0.32%

**Active Infants and Toddlers less than 1-year old with an IFSP in Comparison to Census Total as of 6/30/2003**

SPOE Regions		Total <1 year old	<1 yr Census Total	Active IFSP % of population
St. Louis (Region #2)	Urban	112	16,773	0.67%
St. Charles (Region #1)	Urban	35	4,109	0.85%
Atchison area (Region #4)	Rural	4	650	0.62%
Platte/Clay/Ray (Region #6)	Near Urban	30	3,879	0.77%
Andrew (St. Joseph) (Region #5)	Rural	12	1,789	0.67%
SE MO (Region #7, 21, 23)	Rural	32	5,238	0.61%
Kirksville (Region #8)	Rural	7	820	0.85%
Kansas City (Region #9)	Urban	49	9,391	0.52%
Sedalia (Region #10)	Rural	4	2,125	0.19%
Columbia (Region #11)	Small Urban	32	3,111	1.03%
SW MO (Region #12, 14, 15)	Rural	33	6,456	0.51%
Springfield (Region #13)	Small Urban	28	4,645	0.60%
Jefferson City (Region #16)	Rural	13	1,940	0.67%
Camdenton/Rolla (Region #17)	Rural	13	2,143	0.61%
Union (Region #19)	Rural	7	1,422	0.49%
Cuba (Region #20)	Rural	4	804	0.50%
S Central MO / West Plains (Region #18, 22)	Rural	10	2,133	0.47%
N Central MO (Region #24)	Rural	2	670	0.30%
Shelby (Region #25)	Rural	4	708	0.56%
Montgomery City (Region #26)	Rural	11	1,172	0.94%
Jefferson County (Region #3)	Near Urban	20	2,864	0.70%
Grand Total		462	72,842	0.63%

\* 2000 Census

Source: SuperSPOE database as of 2/22/04

**Count of Referral Sources - Children with Referral Date Before Their 1st Birthday**

Source	6/30/2003	%
Child Care program/provider	82	4.38%
Dept. of Health and Senior Services (DHSS)	1	0.05%
Dept. of Mental Health (DMH)	651	34.78%
Head Start / Early Head Start	96	5.13%
Hospital (other than NICU)	51	2.72%
Missouri School for the Blind (MSB)	1	0.05%
Missouri School for the Deaf (MSD)	0	0.00%
Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU)	44	2.35%
Other health care provider	7	0.37%
Other LEA program	234	12.50%
Parent	110	5.88%
Physician (MD, DO, Psychiatrist, Psychologist)	211	11.27%
Public Health facilities/providers	2	0.11%
Parents as Teachers	12	0.64%
Social Service Agency (inc. DFS)	55	2.94%
Other Referral Source	315	16.83%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,872</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

Source: SuperSPOE database as of 2/22/04

\* A large number of the referrals from "Other LEA Program" and "Other Referral Source" were for children who were converted to the new system. No additional information is available on these referrals, but more current data shows that the percentages in these categories are decreasing.

**Findings:**

- In general, the count of children under the age of one with active IFSPs has been increasing and data show that Missouri has reached the benchmark set for the December 1, 2003 child count, however the percentage of infants under the age of one served is not approaching national averages. It is important to keep in mind that the Missouri First Steps program does not serve children at-risk and has narrow eligibility criteria. However, comparison to other states with narrow eligibility criteria shows Missouri to have the fourth lowest percentage of children served. Across all eligibility criteria, twelve states have percentages served less than Missouri.
- The percentage of children served in the First Steps program varies across SPOEs. Compared to all children birth through age two, there is less of a correlation between urban and rural areas and the percent of infants served
- Compared to referral sources for all infants and toddlers, referrals for the infants under age one tend to come from DMH and neonatal intensive care units (NICUs) and physicians and fewer from parents. The number of referrals from NICUs is a relatively low percent. We need to work with the NICUs to ensure that all appropriate referrals are being made.

**2. Targets:** (for reporting period July 1, 2002 through June 30, 2003)

Targets had not been established for 2002-2003. Targets were established in conjunction with the Improvement Plan which was submitted July 1, 2003.

**3. Explanation of Progress or Slippage:** (for reporting period July 1, 2002 through June 30, 2003)

Local Interagency Coordinating Councils (LICC) can have a large impact on child find across the state, however funding for LICC operations was cut during the 2002 Legislative session, when a \$700,000 reduction was required by the state legislature to the DESE First Steps supplemental budget request. DESE made the decision to continue direct services to infants, toddlers and families and focus budget reductions on administrative functions, LICCs and training.

Child find will be significantly impacted by the requirements and performance standards being put in place for the Phase 1 SPOE RFP. Regional Interagency Coordinating Councils (RICC) will be established by the SPOEs and will work with the SPOEs to determine child find targets appropriate to each region. These targets will then be used to evaluate SPOEs on performance standards. See the RFP section in the Introduction for more information.

Due to the full implementation towards the end of the reporting year (July 1, 2002 through June 30, 2003), data provided under "Baseline/Trend Data and Analysis" will be considered baseline. The focus for the majority of 2002-03 was to reach full implementation for the redesigned First Steps program.

**4. Projected Targets:**

The following benchmarks/targets were established in conjunction with Missouri's Improvement Plan.

The percent of children served in Part C as measured by the December child count will be consistent with the national participation rate as follows:

Child Count as of	Target
December 2003	0.65%
December 2004	0.70%
December 2005	0.75%
December 2006	0.80%
December 2007	0.90%

Additional projected targets are in the Future Activities tables.

**5. & 6. Future Activities to Achieve Projected Targets/Results and Projected Timelines and Resources:**

See GS.I and CC.I